

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: Paul D. Ringgenberg, Mark A. Proett,  
Michael T. Pelletier, Michael L. Hinz,  
Gregory N. Gilbert, Harold W. Nivens  
and Mehdi Azari

Filed: Herewith

Entitled: METHODS OF DOWNHOLE TESTING  
SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS AND  
ASSOCIATED APPARATUS  
THEREFOR

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: R. Schoeppel -

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As listed on the accompanying form PTO-SB-o8, the Applicants hereby call the examiner's attention to the following information of which they are aware, in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56. Copies of the listed references, other than U.S. patents, are enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement.

U.S. Patents:

5,484,018	2,945,952	3,923,099	4,043,129	4,112,745	5,456,322
5,497,832	5,803,178	2,169,559	5,540,280	5,799,733	4,883,123
4,787,447	4,878,538	3,437,138	4,210,025	5,335,732	5,590,715
5,671,811	5,725,059	6,047,781	6,085,851	6,325,184	6,325,146
6,446,719	6,446,720	4,006,630	5,337,821	3,705,626	4,705,114

6,281,489

Foreign Patent Documents:

GB 2 221 486 A      WO 00/58604      EP 0 781 893 A2      EP 0 699 819 A2  
EP 0 699 819 A3      GB 2 172 631 A

Search Report for U.K. Application No. GB 0030648.0

Search Report for European Application No. EP 00301471

Non-Patent Documents:

Gatlin, C., PETROLEUM ENGINEERING – Drilling and Well Completions,  
Prentice Hall, 1960, p. 254

Schultz, Roger L., Halliburton Reservoir Services PTS Tool Systems and Fast Test  
Technique, undated

Operating Instructions 2-3/8 in. and 2-7/8 in. Omega Plug Catcher, dated July  
15, 1981

Latch-Down Plugs, dated January 31, 1981

Cementing Plug Latch Down, dated July 15, 1981

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37  
CFR §1.97(b)(3), which provides for the timely filing of an Information Disclosure  
Statement before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a  
representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is,  
or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information  
exists. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be  
construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Written notification that the listed documents have been considered in their  
entirety, by return of a copy of the enclosed form completed by the examiner, is  
respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.



Marlin R. Smith  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 38,310

Dated: *Jan. 19, 2004*

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I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

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on JANUARY 22, 2004  
*Shena Jufko*

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	UNASSIGNED
Filing Date	HEREWITH
First Named Inventor	PAUL D. RINGGENBERG
Art Unit	3672
Examiner Name	R. SCHOEPPPEL
Attorney Docket Number	990122U1D3C1D1USA

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,484,018	01-16-1996	CAVENDER et al.	
		US- 2,945,952	07-19-1960	H.A. BOURNE et al.	
		US- 3,923,099	12-02-1975	BRANDON	
		US- 4,043,129	08-23-1977	McCABE et al.	
		US- 4,112,745	09-12-1978	McCABE et al.	
		US- 5,456,322	10-10-1995	TUCKER et al.	
		US- 5,497,832	03-12-1996	STUEBINGER et al.	
		US- 5,803,178	09-08-1998	CAIN	
		US- 2,169,559	08-15-1939	E.P. HALLIBURTON	
		US- 5,540,280	07-30-1996	SCHULTZ et al.	
		US- 5,799,733	09-01-1998	RINGGENBERG et al.	
		US- 4,883,123	11-28-1989	ZUNKEL et al.	
		US- 4,787,447	11-29-1988	CHRISTENSEN	
		US- 4,878,538	11-07-1989	CHRISTENSEN	
		US- 3,437,138	04-08-1969	L.B. SCOTT	
		US- 4,210,025	07-01-1980	BIMOND et al.	
		US- 5,335,732	08-09-1994	McINTYRE	
		US- 5,590,715	01-07-1997	AMERMAN	
		US- 5,671,811	09-30-1997	HEAD	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		GB 2,221,486 A	02-07-1990	DENNIS R. EUBANK		
		WO 00/58604 A1	10-05-2000	DEN NORSKE STATS		
		EP 0 781 893 A2	07-02-1997	HALLIBURTON COMPANY		
		EP 0 699 819 A2	03-06-1996	HALLIBURTON COMPANY		
		EP 0 699 819 A3	12-29-1997	HALLIBURTON COMPANY		
		GB 2,172,631 A	09-24-1986	TESEL PLC		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **2**of **3****Complete if Known**

Application Number	UNASSIGNED
Filing Date	HEREWITH
First Named Inventor	PAUL D. RINGGENBERG
Art Unit	3672
Examiner Name	R. SCHOEPEL
Attorney Docket Number	990122U1D3C1D1USA

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		US- 5,725,059	03-10-1998	KUCKES et al.	
		US- 6,047,781	04-11-2000	SCOTT et al.	
		US- 6,085,851	07-11-2000	SCOTT et al.	
		US- 6,325,184	12-04-2001	LUJAN	
		US- 6,325,146	12-04-2001	RINGGENBERG et al.	
		US- 6,446,719	09-10-2002	RINGGENBERG et al.	
		US- 6,446,720	09-10-2002	RINGGENBERG et al.	
		US- 4,006,630	02-08-1977	CATHRINER	
		US- 5,337,821	08-16-1994	PETERSON	
		US- 3,705,626	12-12-1972	GLENN, Jr. et al.	
		US- 4,705,114	11-10-1987	SCHROEDER et al.	
		US- 6,281,489	08-28-2001	TUBEL et al.	
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SignatureDate  
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		<b>Filing Date</b>	HEREWITH
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	PAUL D. RINGGENBERG
		<b>Art Unit</b>	3672
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	R. SCHOEPPPEL
<b>Sheet</b> 3	<b>of</b> 3	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	990122U1D3C1D1USA

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		SEARCH REPORT FOR U.K. APPLICATION NO.: GB 0030648.0	
		SEARCH REPORT FOR EUROPEAN APPLICATION NO.: EP 00 30 1471	
		GATLIN, C., PETROLEUM ENGINEERING - DRILLING AND WELL COMPLETIONS, PRENTICE HALL, 1960, PAGE 254	
		SCHULTZ, ROGER L., HALLIBURTON RESERVOIR SERVICES PTS TOOL SYSTEMS AND FAST TEST TECHNIQUE, UNDATED	
		OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2-3/8 IN. AND 2-7/8 IN. OMEGA PLUG CATCHER, DATED JULY 15, 1981	
		LATCH-DOWN PLUGS, DATED JANUARY 31, 1981	
		CEMENTING PLUG LATCH DOWN, DATED JULY 15, 1981	

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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